

data.census.gov: Questions and Answers

Dial-in: 1-800-369-1984 or 1-312-470-7384

Passcode: 3207568

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Center for Enterprise Dissemination
Dissemination Outreach Branch
U.S. Census Bureau



Outline

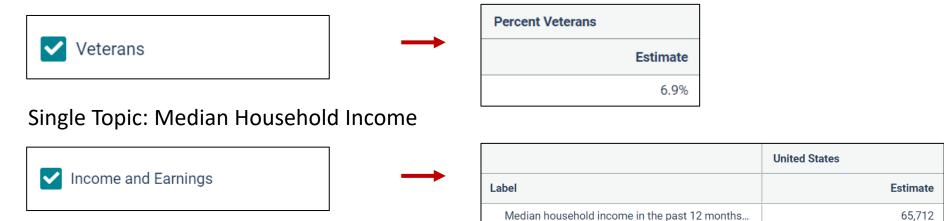
- Answers to Common Questions Related to:
 - Finding Data
 - Understanding Error Messages & Overcoming Performance Issues
 - Selecting Geographies
 - Downloading or Printing Tables
- Q&A



How Do I Find Data for Multiple Topics?

Run separate searches for each topic filter unless you want the data cross-tabulated

Single Topic: Percent Veterans



Cross Tabulation: Median Income of Veterans







What Data Are Available?

General Data Availability:

American Community Survey (ACS): 2010-2019

Decennial Census: 2000 & 2010

Econ Census and Selected Surveys: 2012-present

	2000	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ACS 1-Year Detailed Tables		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Data Profiles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Comparison Profiles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Subject Tables		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Selected Population Profiles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 5-Year American Indian and Alaska Native Tables		✓					✓			
ACS 5-Year Selected Population Tables		✓					✓			
ACS 5-Year Detailed Tables		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 5-Year Data Profiles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 5-Year Comparison Profiles							✓	✓	✓	✓

<u>ask.census.gov/prweb/PRServletCustom?pyActi</u> <u>vity=pyMobileSnapStart&ArticleID=KCP-5489</u>

Other Popular Datasets and How To Access Them:

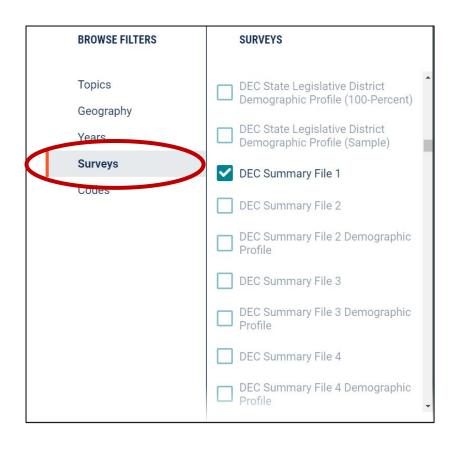
- Population Estimates Program:
 Program page and application programming interface (API)
- Pre-2000 Decennial Census:
 Webpage, FTP site, and library@census.gov
- Pre-2010 American Community Survey:
 API and FTP site
- Equal Opportunity Employment (EEO) tabulation:
 EEO Beta Table Tool and FTP site
- Econ Census and Selected Surveys (Before 2012):
 FTP site and program pages





How Do I Select My Survey?

Large surveys and programs have many options in the Surveys filter



Popular types of tables:

Decennial Census:

DEC Summary File 1

American Community Survey (ACS):

- ACS 5-Year Data Profiles
- ACS 1-Year Data Profiles

Economic Census:

ECN Economic Census of the United
 States Economic Census US Basic Data



How Can I Get Population Density?

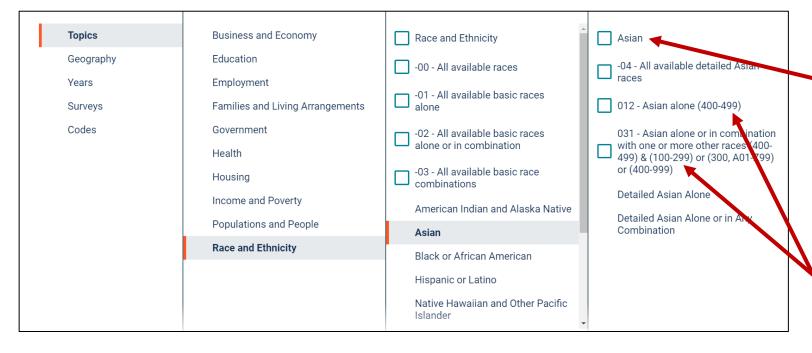
Population density data tables were not able to be migrated to data.census.gov, but you can calculate population density with this equation and resources:

- 1. Get total population data through tables on data.census.gov
 - Decennial Census: P1 or P001
 - American Community Survey: **B01003**
 - Population Estimates Program: PEPANNRES
- 2. Get land area through Gazetteer Files
 - https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/time-series/geo/gazetteer-files.html
 - Download the file for your geography type
 - ALAND is area for land in square meters; ALAND_sqmi is land area in square miles.



How Do I Access Data by Race?

Select Topics → Race and Ethnicity Drill into your desired level of detail and click a check box to select a group



Filters without codes provide data from standard tables. Use to get totals for most groups and characteristics of major groups (Asian)

Example: ACS Detailed Tables, Data Profiles; Decennial Census Summary File (SF) 1, 116th Congressional District SF, etc.

Filters with codes provide data from iterated tables. Use to get characteristics of detailed population groups (Japanese)

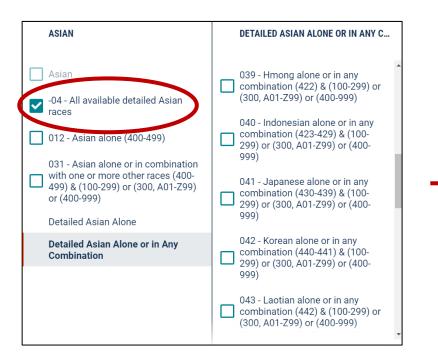
- ACS 1-Year Selected Population Profiles
- ACS 5-Year Selected Population Tables and AIAN Tables
- Decennial SF 2 and SF4

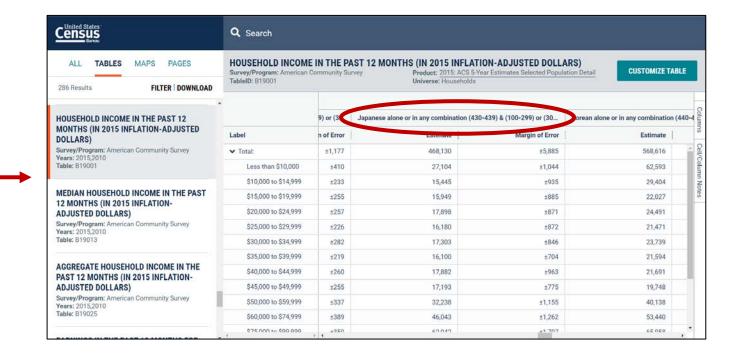


How Do I Get Data for "In Combination" Race Groups?

Due to a current defect, "in combination" filters are providing data for total population instead of your selected group.

Use the higher-level "All Available" check boxes as a workaround









Why Are My Geographies and Downloads Not in Order?

Data and downloads come from the API, and may not be ordered as you would expect.

All the data are included, and you can manually sort it after downloading the data. Improved sorting has been applied to 2019 data and we are working to apply it to previous vintages.



	Α	В		С		D	E	F	G
1	GEO_ID	NAME	C27003_017E			C27003_0:	C27003_0	C27003_0	C27003
2	id	Geographic Area Name	Estimate!!Tot	al!!Female!!19 to 64 years!!With pub	lic coverage	Margin of	Estimate!	Margin of	Estima
3	040000US08	Colorado			313630	9162	1410969	10235	4290
4	0400000US18	Indiana			364293	10490	1620827	10414	5662
5	0400000US21	Kentucky			395632	8287	937467	9418	3938
6	0400000US22	Louisiana			423951	10577	981073	11958	3922
7	0400000US17	Illinois			736187	13011	3119920	14528	10798
8	0400000US19	Iowa			173140	5829	735664	6046	2832
9	040000US33	New Hampshire			64970	3813	348147	4530	1278
10	040000US05	Arkansas			240791	6610	641348	7399	2690
11	0400000US10	Delaware			68415	4509	223132	4576	971
12	0400000US27	Minnesota			306714	7276	1348857	7294	4647
	< →	ACSDT1Y2018.C27003_da	ta_with_ov	(+)	: 4				

Columns may be out of order in downloaded data

Example: C27003 begins with the 17th row instead of the 1st

Geographies may not appear in alphabetical order

Example: Search for all states starts with Colorado



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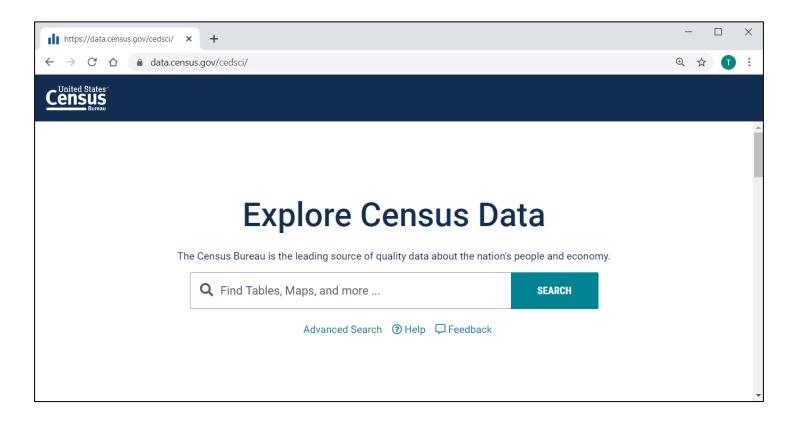




What Is the Recommended Browser?

data.census.gov works best in Google Chrome

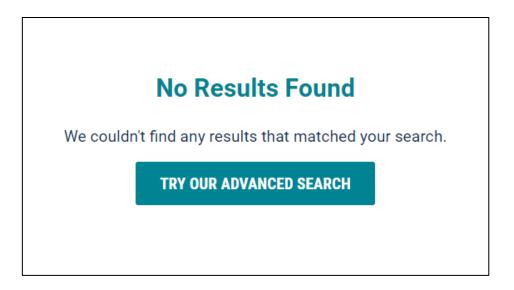






Why Am I Getting "No Results Found" Error Message?

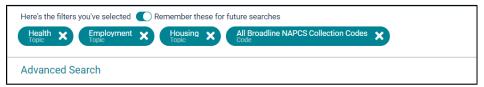
Remove filters or check for typos to resolve this:



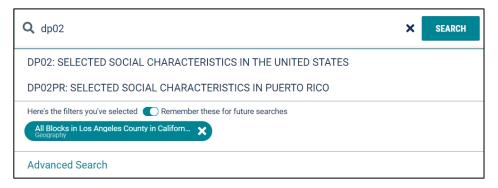
1) There is a typo in your table ID (example: dpo2 instead of dp02)



2) You selected too many filters



3) You typed something new in the single search bar that is not compatible with the filters you already selected

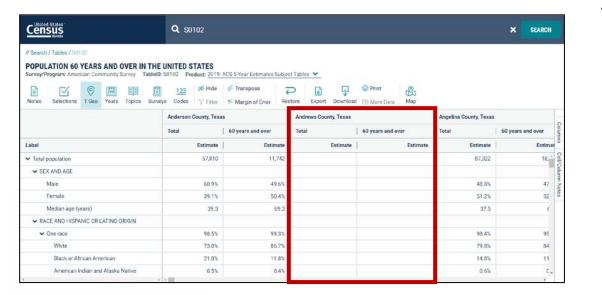




Why Am I Getting "Data Not Available" Message or a Blank Table?

Use a higher-level geography, table, and/or NAICS code





Data are suppressed:

1) Example: NAICS is not available for your geography



2) Example: Table is not available for your geography



Learn more: <u>ACS Data Suppression</u> and <u>Geographic</u> Restrictions by Table

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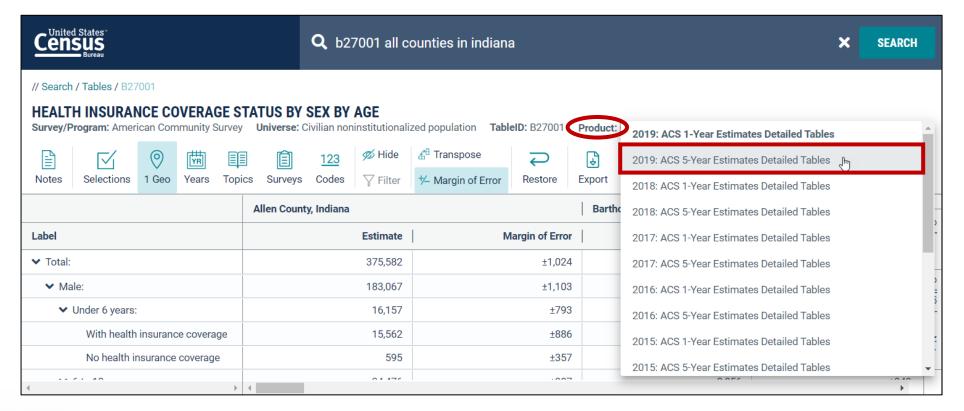




Why Does My Table Not Show All of My Selected Geographies? Why Am I Unable to Select My Geography?

It is often due to using ACS 1-year estimates instead of ACS 5-year estimates. ACS 1-year has min population requirement of 65,000 people.

Click the product drop down menu and choose ACS 5-year estimates to get data for your geographies.







Why Am I Unable to Find My Geography Using Single Search?

We are still working to improve search results for search phrases that could have multiple meanings.

Select your geography using the advanced search if you continue to experience difficulties.





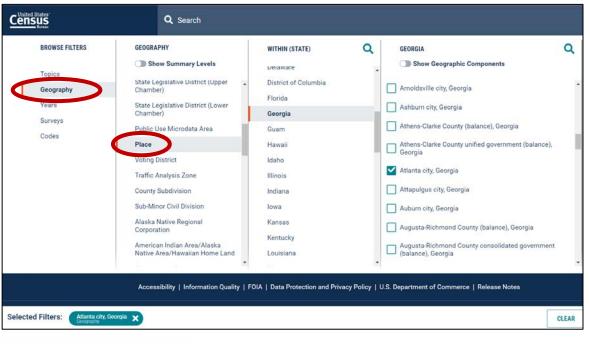


How Do I Select My City or Town?

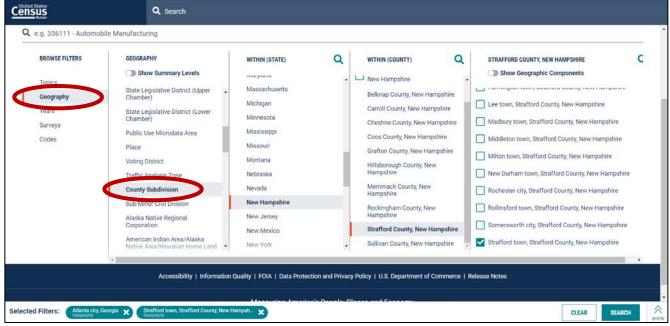
Use the Place or County Subdivision geography filters

- Place: Use for cities and towns in most states
- County Subdivision: Use to find towns, townships, and boroughs in selected states (primarily in the Northeast and Midwest)

Place: Atlanta city, Georgia



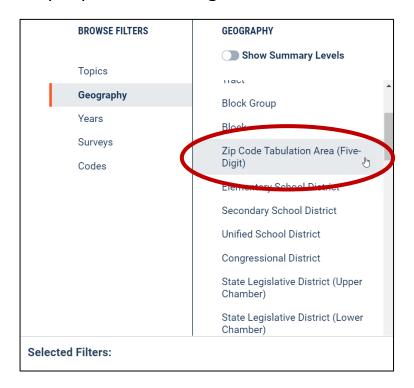
County Subdivision: Strafford town, New Hampshire



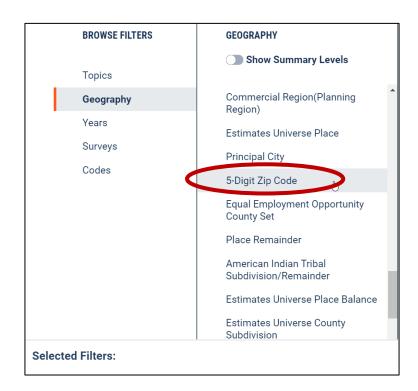


How Do I Access Data for ZIP Codes?

Use ZIP Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) for data on people and housing



Use ZIP Codes for data on businesses



https://www2.census.gov/data/api-documentation/using-data-census-gov-differences-in-zcta_zip-code-summary-levels.pdf

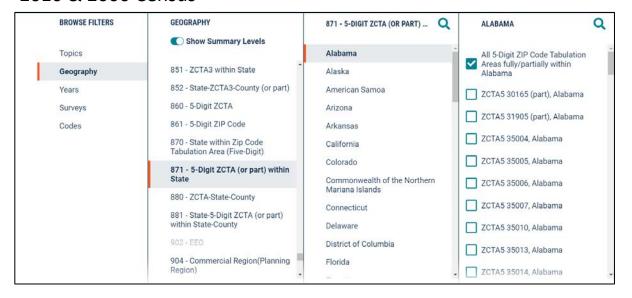
How Do I Access Data for Collections of ZCTAs in Bulk?

Easy-to-use filters allow you to select all ZCTAs for the most recent data releases

2019 ACS



2010 & 2000 Census



Learn more:

- ACS: See <u>FAQ KCP-6030</u> to learn how to get ZCTA data earlier vintages of ACS 5-year datasets (2011-2018)
- 2010 & 2000 Census: See <u>FAQ KCP-6031</u> to learn how to get for all ZCTAs in U.S. for decennial census



How Do I Select All Census Tracts in the U.S.?

• Visit this link which has selections for all tracts in each state, DC, and Puerto Rico



 $\frac{\text{https://data.census.gov/cedsci/advanced?g=0400000US01.140000,02.140000,04.140000,05.140000,06.140000,08.}{140000,09.140000,10.140000,11.140000,12.140000,13.140000,15.140000,16.140000,17.140000,18.140000,19.140}{000,20.140000,21.140000,22.140000,23.140000,24.140000,25.140000,26.140000,27.140000,28.140000,29.140000}{30.140000,31.140000,32.140000,33.140000,34.140000,35.140000,36.140000,37.140000,38.140000,39.140000,40.}{140000,41.140000,42.140000,44.140000,45.140000,46.140000,47.140000,48.140000,49.140000,50.140000,51.140}{000,53.140000,54.140000,55.140000,56.140000,72.140000}$

- Add other search criteria
- Download your table(s)

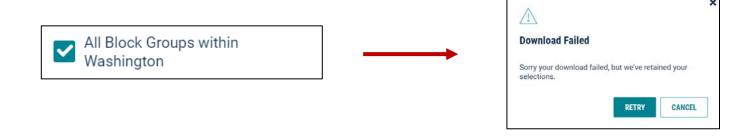


ask.census.gov/prweb/PRServletCustom?pyActivity=pyMobileSnapStart&ArticleID=KCP-5942



How Do I Select All Block Groups in My State?

Check boxes for "All Block Groups in a state" have not been made compatible with ACS data tables and will result in Download Failed error messages.



Use the county-level collections instead (example: All block groups in each of Washington's 39 counties)



Visit FAQ KCP-6017 for quick links that provide selections for all block groups in a state that work with ACS tables.

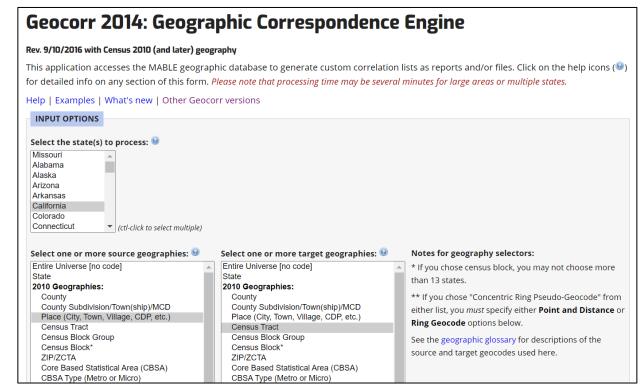
ask.census.gov/prweb/PRServletCustom?pyActivity=pyMobileSnapStart&ArticleID=KCP-6017





What About Other Geography Selection Options I Need?

- Tell us what collections you would like to see by emailing <u>cedsci.feedback@census.gov</u>
- Get a list of geographies within other geographies (Example: All census tracts in a city):
 - MABLE Geocorr
 https://mcdc.missouri.edu/applications/geocorr.html
 Learn how to use MABLE Geocorr
 - U.S. Census Bureau Relationship Files
 https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/time-series/geo/relationship-files.html
- Use maps, API, or FTP as workarounds in some cases



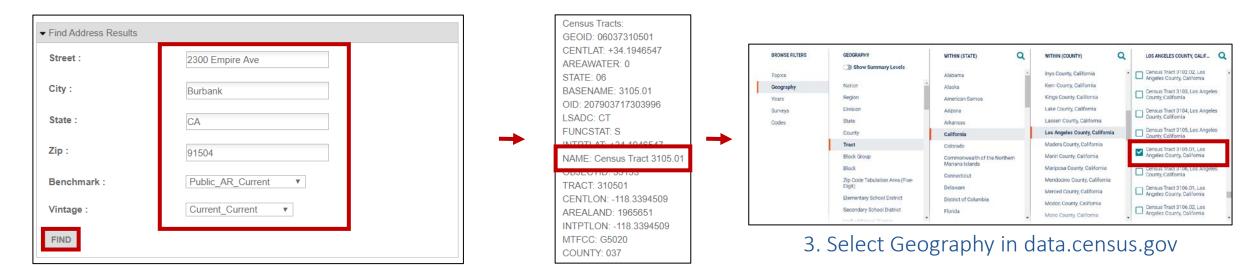
MABLE Geocorr: All census tracts in a city



How Can I Find the Geographies for an Address?

To find the census tract or other geographic areas associated with a particular address:

Use the <u>Census Geocoder</u> and reference <u>FAQ KCP-5495</u>



1. Enter Address in Geocoder

2. View Results

ask.census.gov/prweb/PRServletCustom?pyActivity=pyMobileSnapStart&ArticleID=KCP-5495



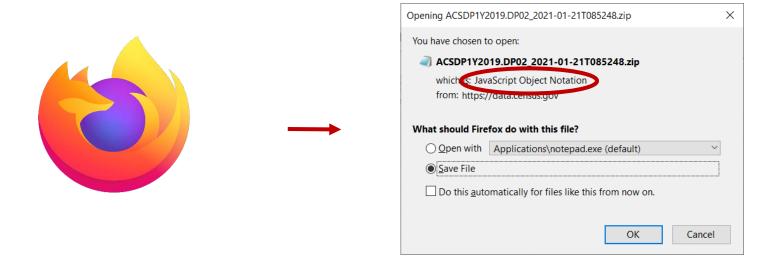
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Why Is My Download a JSON File?

Some browsers (Firefox and Safari) show the download file type as JSON instead of .zip due to a defect



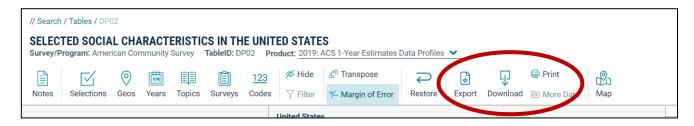
Use the preferred browser, Google Chrome, to download your files instead



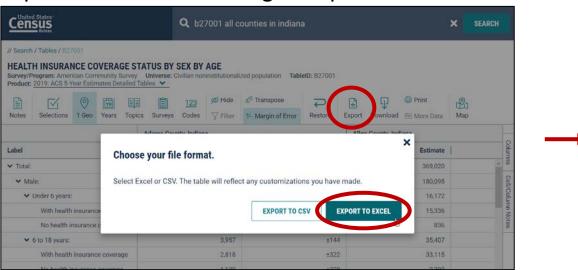


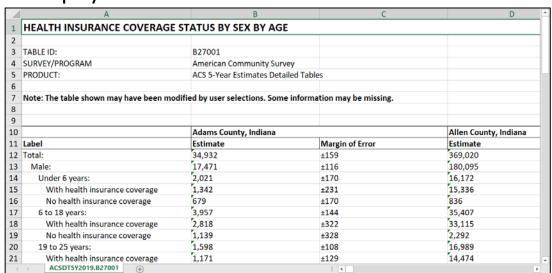
Why Does My Download Not Look Like the Table?

Downloading provides machine readable output. We recommend it if you want to sort, map, or manipulate the data.



Export the table to Excel to get output that looks similar to the table display.





ask.census.gov/prweb/PRServletCustom?pyActivity=pyMobileSnapStart&ArticleID=KCP-5947





Why Are My Customizations Not Reflected in My Downloaded File?

Export or copy/paste the table if you want customizations you made on screen to carry over to output

Feature:	Do Customizations Carry Over?
Copy/Paste:	
Select table cells, right click the table and choose "Copy" or "Copy with Headers"	Yes
Export:	
	Yes
Right click the table and export to Excel or .csv	
Download: Click the Download button and follow the prompt to get .csv file	No

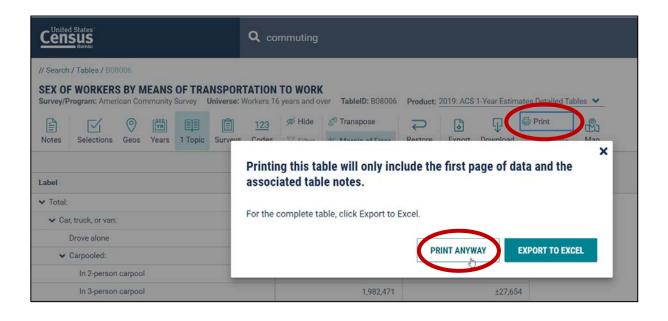






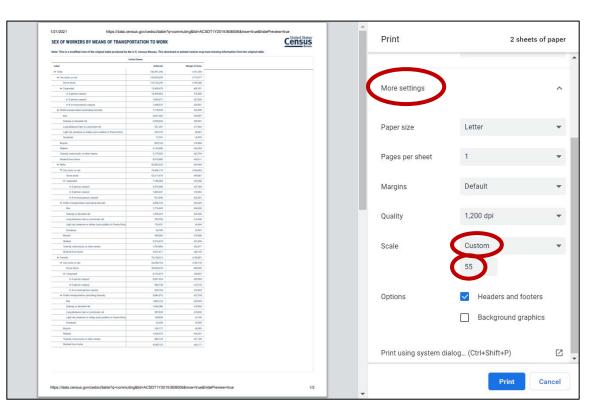
How Can I Print My Table?

Use the print feature for small tables



Fit more on the page by:

- Hiding or resizing columns
- Adjusting the print scale

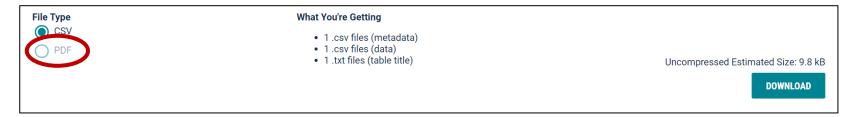




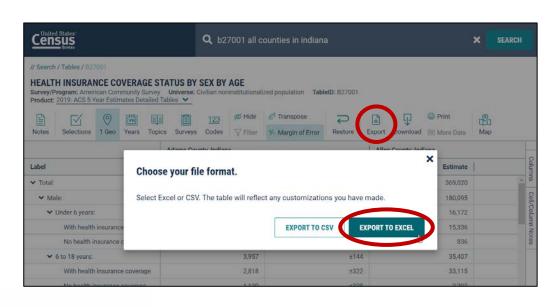


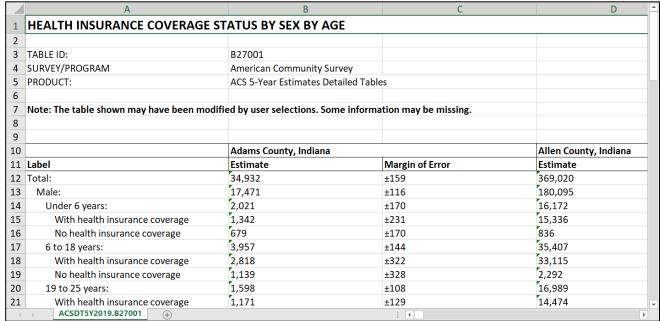
How Can I Download a PDF?

We have not yet added the functionality, which is why the button is grayed out



Export the table to Excel to get output that looks similar to the table display.









Where Can I Learn More?

data.census.gov Resources page:

census.gov/data/what-is-data-census-gov.html

Census Academy:

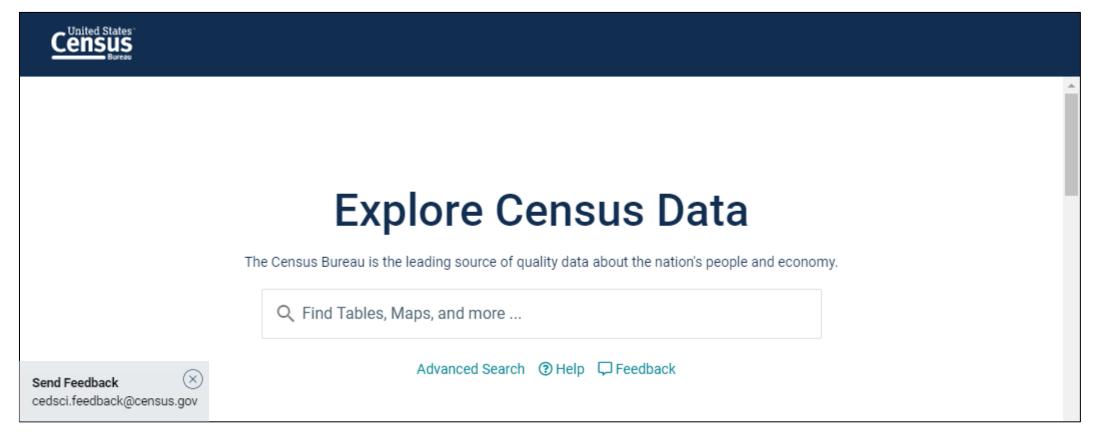
census.gov/data/academy/webinars
/upcoming.html







Who Can I Contact to Get Help or Provide Feedback?



Email cedsci.feedback@census.gov





Questions

Media:

Public Information Office

U.S. Census Bureau

pio@census.gov

301-763-3030

Public:

Center for Enterprise Dissemination

U.S. Census Bureau

cedsci.feedback@census.gov

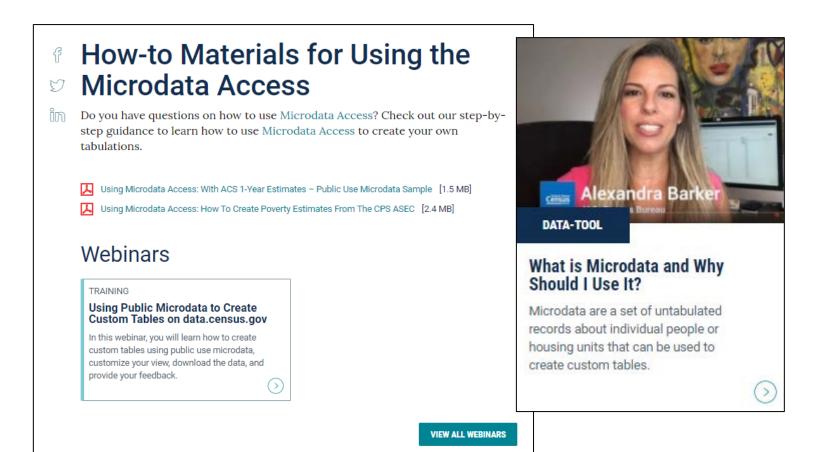




Microdata Access on data.census.gov/mdat

You can use microdata access on data.census.gov/mdat to create custom tables. Learn more at:

census.gov/data/what-is-data-census-gov/guidance-for-data-users/how-to-materials-for-using-the-microdata-access.html

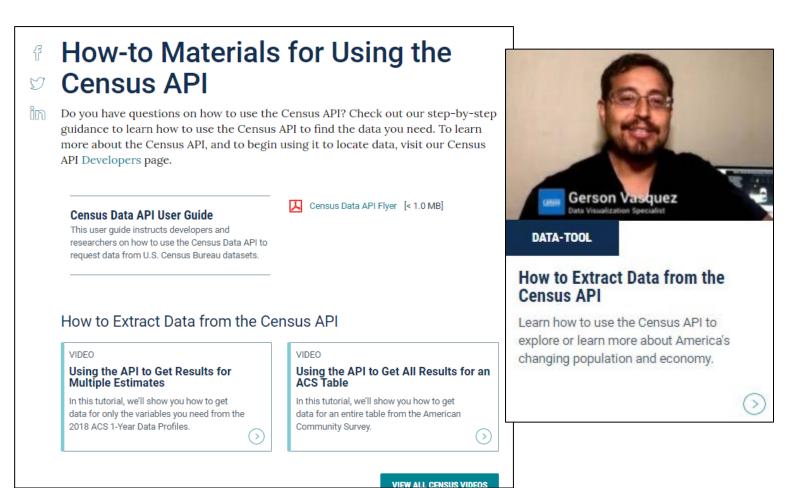






Application Programming Interface (API)

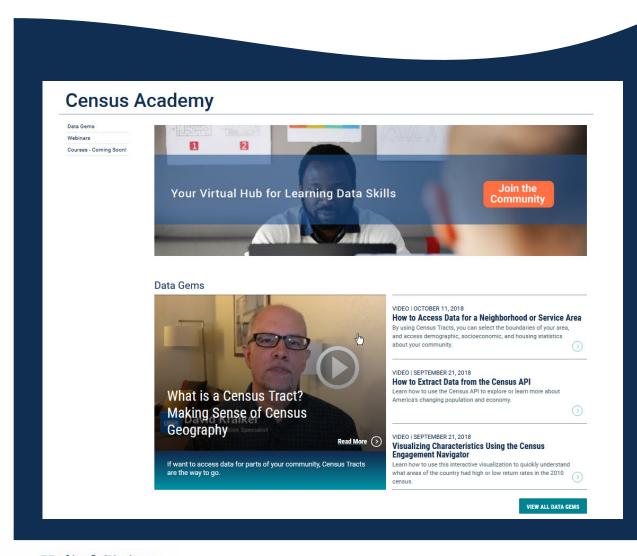
You can use the API to get results for a few estimates or an entire table, and view your results in Google Chrome or .csv. Learn more at census.gov/data/what-is-data-census-gov/guidance-for-data-users/how-to-materials-for-using-the-census-api.html







Data Dissemination and Training: census.gov/academy



✓ Bring our data experts to you.

Request a free data training for your organization.

✓ Subscribe to Census.gov/academy.

Join our educational hub to receive our updates and training products

Receive our Data Gems.

These short "how-to" videos are an easy and quick way to increase your knowledge of Census data. Get them in your inbox!

Get access to our data courses.

You will learn-at-your-own-pace with these videotutorials designed for different skill levels.

• Interact with our instructors via webinars.

Learn about our data releases and tools while attending these live virtual classes.

Contact us:

census.askdata@census.gov 1-844-ASK-DATA

Connect with us on Social Media





Webinar Evaluation



https://questionweb.com/59212/

